

Element Performance Inspection (EPI)

5.1.9 RVSM Authorization (OP)

Purpose of this Element (Air Carrier's responsibility):

To ensure continuous altitude reliability in accordance with the Air Carrier's Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum (RVSM) Authorization.

Objective (FAA responsibility): To determine if the Air Carrier follows its RVSM policies and procedures.

Specific Instructions for this EPI:

To accomplish this EPI, the inspector should become familiar with the Air Carrier's RVSM policies and procedures. The inspector shall verify that dispatchers, flight followers, and flight crews have been properly trained and qualified to conduct RVSM operations.

Related EPIs:

- 1.1.2 Appropriate Operational Equipment (OP)
- 3.1.3 Airmen Duties / Flight Deck Procedures (OP)
- 3.1.4 Operational Control (OP)
- 3.1.9 Aircraft Performance Operating Limitations (OP)
- 3.2.1 Dispatch / Flight Release (OP)
- 3.2.3 MEL / CDL Procedures (OP)
- 4.2.3 Training of Flight Crewmembers (OP)
- 4.2.5 Training of Dispatchers (OP)
- 4.2.9 Outsource Crew Training (OP)
- 4.2.11 Training of Flight Followers (OP)
- 4.3.2 Appropriate Airmen / Crewmember Checks and Qualifications (OP)
- 5.1.6 Use of Approved Areas, Routes and Airports (OP)
- 5.1.7 Special Navigation Areas of Operation (OP)
- 5.1.8 Extended Range Operations with Two-Engine Airplanes (ETOPS) (OP)
- 6.1.1 Scheduling / Reporting System (OP)
- 7.2.1 Safety Program (Ground and Flight) (OP)

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To meet this objective, the inspector will accomplish the following tasks (at the inspection locations where applicable):

1. Review the FAA Guidance and Specific Regulatory Requirements (SRR) included in the supplemental information section of this EPI.
2. Review the associated SAI, with emphasis on the Controls Attribute section.
3. Review policies and procedures related to RVSM operations.
4. Discuss RVSM operations procedures with appropriate personnel.
5. Observe the RVSM process, to include in-flight operations.
6. Review and assess RVSM records.

To meet this objective, the inspector will answer the following questions:

1. Were the following performance measures met:

1.1 All flight crewmembers conducting RVSM operations were qualified.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
1.2 All dispatchers/flight followers conducting RVSM operations were qualified.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
1.3 Only airplanes listed in Paragraph D092 of the OpSpecs were used in RVSM operations.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
1.4 Did the flight crew comply with the Air Carrier's RVSM procedures prior to entering RVSM airspace?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
1.5 Did the flight crew comply with the Air Carrier's RVSM procedures while operating within RVSM airspace?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
1.6 Did the flight crew comply with the Air Carrier's RVSM expanded reporting requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
1.7 Are RVSM operations conducted in accordance with the Air Carrier's RVSM Authorization? [SRR 91.706(a)]	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
2. Were the written procedures adhered to for the RVSM Authorization?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
3. Were the identified controls adhered to for RVSM Authorization?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

SRRs:

- 14 CFR 91.706 (a), “Operations within Airspace Designated as Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum (RVSM) Airspace.”
- 14 CFR 91, App.G, “Operations in Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum (RVSM) Airspace.”

Other CFRs and FAA Guidance:

- HBAW 00-03, “NAT/MNPS and RVSM airspace flight level changes to the operations specifications, B039 and B046.”
- HBAW 99-11A, “Approval of Aircraft and Operators for Flight in Airspace Above Flight Level 290 Where 1,000 Foot Vertical Separation is Applied.”
- HBAW 00-04, “NAT/MNPS and RVSM airspace flight level changes to the operations specifications, B039 and B046.”
- Refer to Advisory Circulars using a search engine (such as ATP Navigator or Summit).